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TAGS: [OPRC](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [IZ](#)

SUBJECT: DAILY IRAQI WEBSITE MONITORING - October 3, 2005

SUMMARY: Discussion of the occasion of Ramadan, Saudi interference, government incompetence, and the constitution were the major editorial themes of Iraqi, Arabic language websites on October 3, 2005. END SUMMARY.

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SELECTED COMMENTARIES  
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[1A.](#) "Ramadan Doesn't Revive the Dead, But It's an Occasion for Solace"  
(Editorial by Fatih Abdul Salam - Iraq 4 All News -  
<http://iraq4all.org/viewnews.php?id=10169> )

"Despite traditional differences over [when to] announce the start of the holy month of Ramadan, Muslims of different sects have agreed upon the significance of the month. It represents a graceful occasion, but its spiritual generosity has not been used appropriately by Iraqi politicians, whose only concern is to announce the Ministry of Interior's decision to prevent eating in public.

"Ramadan does not change political positions or beliefs, but this religious occasion should encourage politicians of different backgrounds to meet and agree over political basics. These foundations have been lost in the widening gap of power struggles and the lost definitions of concepts such as terrorism, treason, infidelity, resistance, suppression, and democracy.

"Any monitoring of daily political life in Iraq will show that the broad perspective of two years ago has been reduced to nothing more than narrow angles and tunnels. This view indicates a political stagnancy that should be resolved through true cooperation among all parties. No quick solution can be reached through political activities such as a constitutional referendum or parliamentary elections. If there is no intention to walk this road, then I believe that solos will dominate our political concerts [that unilateral action will decide political outcomes].

"Policy should not be monopolized by major parties and alliances, especially in a naked political process that has nothing aside from U.S. support-an incredible support that insists that the dead are alive and the living are dead, until proven otherwise."

[1B.](#) "Your Highness, Saud Al-Faisal, It's Enough!"  
(Editorial by Tarned Agrawi - Sawt Al-Iraq - Voice of Iraq -  
<http://www.sotaliraq.com/articles-iraq/nieuws .php?id=16652> )

"You speak of the Iraqi constitution as if Saudi Arabia has one! You have forgotten, maybe deliberately, that Saudi Arabia does not.not.have a constitution and that the kingdom is ruled by a tribal, dictatorship-like, sectarian governing system that is apparently religious. In reality, princes and rulers eagerly indulge in a life of alcohol, gambling, and prostitutes.

"Your highness, an Arabic proverb says, 'He who lacks something cannot give it.' Iraqis know only too well that Saudi Arabia lacks a constitution; so before wasting your breath and advising Iraqis, why don't you start with yourself and your royal family and explain to them the meaning of a constitution.

"Your highness, why don't you use your constitutional drafting experience to draft a Saudi constitution that would guarantee a decent life for Saudis instead of interfering in the lives of Iraqis? Don't your countrymen deserve this favor more than anyone else? Your highness, another Arabic proverb says, 'A sick doctor shouldn't be treating people!' You speak of sectarianism in Iraq, well please allow me to

ask you about who fueled sectarianism in Islam? Wasn't it the extremists supported by your kingdom with men and money?

"Your highness, I would like to tell you something: if you wish to secure the region, you should grant Saudi Shiites their rights. We have a Sunni Endowment Council in Iraq. Do you have one for Shiites in Saudi Arabia?"

[1C](#). "Our Government Is Busy .Please Do Not Disturb"

(Editorial by Abdul Salam Salih - Watan 4 All -

<http://wattan4all.com/viewarticle.php?id=5263> &pg=articles )

"Iraq's current conflict of authority between the prime minister and the president of the republic descended to chaos at the headquarters of Al Sabah newspaper, the mouthpiece of the supposed government. It reflects the differences among current Iraqi government leaders, contributing to negative effects on Iraqi people who continue to suffer from a lack of security and necessary services.

"Such difference among government figures will have negative effects on the whole electoral process, starting with the constitutional referendum and continuing to the major election that everybody is struggling to win. This chaos and conflict, centering on authority and positions and how to occupy them, will bring destruction to Iraq, which is already suffering from failures and disastrous consequences.

"The fact that employees of the Iraqi embassy in Damascus helped organize a demonstration in support of the tyrant [Saddam Hussein] and his ousted regime shows scorn for Iraqi peoples' feelings, as well as for the current government. The major problem is that despite our government's advice and appeals, no one [in the government] is listening. Is it because our brothers are busy with more important things .distribution of posts? Certainly they are not busy with the distribution of ration cards items, for which Iraqis were begging from the state.

"Such poor conditions and political disagreements will lead the country and its people to hell. Talking about accusations and counter-accusations over the disappearance of billions is endless, while so many of Iraq's people are living under the poverty line. The parties' [in]competence surface when disasters take place. All run to denounce and condemn these terrorist acts, as if mismanagement and poor choices were not the main reasons for these disastrous failures."

[1D](#). "Why 'No' to the Constitution?"

(Editorial by Ziyad Cobrolo - Al-Jeeran - "Neighbors" -

<http://www.aljeeran.net/articles.php> )

"It is known that the Iraqi National Assembly evaded an important responsibility by starting discussions on the draft constitution behind closed doors and with limited numbers of people participating for one or two days. The National Assembly was supposed to immediately distribute copies of this draft to the Iraqi people. Instead, they sent it to the U.N., as if there is plenty of time for this. We still do not know the reason for this act-why they sent this copy request for a twenty-page document!

"Yes, we can see in this draft a lot of words and names we had not seen before. But when you scrutinize the draft constitution, you will not find anything you could call truth except for the ink and the paper on which the constitution was written. Everything is illusory. This is why we urge you to vote against the constitution:

"1). It indicates ethnic, religious, and ideological affiliation and ignores Iraqi citizenship.

"2). Ambiguity surrounds this constitution; most of its articles are linked to laws that will be legislated by the Parliament's future majority. Constitutions and their articles should be clear, not ambiguous.

"3). It instigates discrimination against ethnicities.

"4). While the last article of the Transitional Administrative Law [TAL] indicates that it will be null upon adoption of the new constitution, the draft excludes item A of Article 53 of the TAL but does not exclude item [1C](#). In the same way, article 58 is excluded. In other words, it allows for random migration until 2007.

"5). The peoples' will regarding Kirkuk's future is postponed until after a census and referendum, which will be held after this date.

"6). The draft, due to pressure from the United States of America, will be submitted immediately to a popular referendum, without giving it the chance to be discussed freely and seriously-even by the MPs, whom the people voted into Parliament to represent them.

"7). The complicated rule system in the draft is unprecedented; implementing it will lead the country to division in short time.

"For all these reasons, every citizen who loves his country should go to polling centers and vote against this draft. Iraqi people should say 'my will is above everything.' Otherwise, this beloved country, with all its fortunes, will fall to others. You, dear citizen, you will continue to be humiliated on you own land. the choice is in your hand."

SATTERFIELD